

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 COTONO 00926 261354Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 OPIC-03 L-03 EB-07 /029 W  
-----270224Z 055253 /72

R 261300Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9727  
AMEMBASSY LOME  
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY  
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COTONOU 0926

PASS ALSO AID/AFR/SFWA

PASS ALSO OPIC / CARL MIDDLETON

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EINV, DM, US  
SUBJ: MORRISON-KNUDSEN EQUIPMENT IN BENIN

REF: A. COTONOU 0851 B. STATE 119748

1. MORRISON-KNUDSEN (M-K) PROJECT MANAGER BOB MAX  
TODAY INFORMED US THAT M-K HAD BEGUN TO MOVE ITS EQUIPMENT  
FROM KANDI CAMP FOLLOWING PERMISSION EFFECTIVE 0900 MAY 25,  
1977. WHILE MAX WILL NOT BREATH EASILY UNTIL EQUIPMENT HAS  
LEFT THE COUNTRY, HE IS NOW CAUTIOUSLY OPTIMISTIC THAT SEIZURE  
QUESTION, AT LEAST, IS RESLOVED.

2. DESPITE ULTIMATE DEPOSIT OF FIRST PAYMENT ITS ACCOUNT,  
M-K STILL CONSIDERS ITS AGREEMENT WITH THE GOVERNMENT  
NULL AND VOID, AND SAYS IT WILL ONLY NEGOTIATE ON THE BASIS  
OF 100 PERCENT PAYMENT IN ADVANCE AND FULL REIMBURSEMENT  
FOR EXPENSES INCURRED WHILE EQUIPMENT BLOCKED IN KANDI. VICE  
PRESIDENT WILKINSON IS DUE IN FROM THE M-K OFFICE IN THE HAGUE  
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ON MAY 30 TO RE-OPEN NEGOTIATIONS APPARENTLY ON THIS BASIS.

3. FOR LOME AND NIAMEY: IF OICI IN LOME OR PAO/NIAMEY ARE STILL  
INTERESTED IN TRAILERS, THEY MAY SEE EQUIPMENT IN KANDI AND  
DISCUSS ITS PURCHASE AT THEIR CONVENIENCE EITHER THERE OR IN  
COTONOU.

4. FOR DEPARTMENT: CHARGE HAD ALREADY FOLLOWED-UP ON EARLIER APPROACH TO BENINESE ON MAY 24 BY RAISING QUESTION WITH BOTH PROTOCOL DIRECTOR PAQUI AND DEPARTMENT TWO (US, NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS) ACTING DIRECTOR HOUTON. BOTH PROMISED TO INTERCEDE WITH INTERIOR MINISTER FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF EQUIPMENT. THOMPSON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NEGOTIATIONS, DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 26-May-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decapton Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decapton Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977COTONO00926  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770189-0571  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** COTONOU  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770516/aaaaanfm.tel  
**Line Count:** 68  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 029dbc89-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 COTONOU 851  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 02-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2360628  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MORRISON-KNUDSEN EQUIPMENT IN BENIN  
**TAGS:** EINV, DM, US, M-K, MORRISON-KNUDSEN  
**To:** STATE LOME  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkvgwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/029dbc89-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009